THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As per land use statistics 1993-94 (latest available), the total area under cultivation of foodgrains and horticulture (Fruits, Vegetable and Condiments and Spices) crops in Orissa was 72.07 and 12.69 lakh hectares respectively.

(b) As per Agricultural Census, 1990-91 the estimated number of operational holdings under foodgrains and horticulture crops in Orissa are 29.73 and 1.92 lakhs respectively.

(c) To increase the production of foodgrains crops, the Government is implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes in various States including Orissa. Under these schemes, the incentives are provided to the farmers including SC/ST on key inputs like production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, improved farm implements, sprinkler/sets etc. which also cover, the tribal areas of the State. The major thrust in horticulture sector is for providing better planting/seed material, rejuvenation/rehabilitation of existing plantations, installation of drip irrigation system, use of green house cultivation, infrastruture for post-harvest handling and marketing, and development of market intelligence.

(d) The Scheme-wise release of funds for 1995-96 and allocation during 1996-97 for the development of Foodgrains and Horticulure Crops in Orissa is given in attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Scheme-wise release of funds for 1995-96 and allocation during 1996-97 for development of foodgrain and horticulture crops in Orissa

(Rs in lakh)

Scheme	1995-96 (Release)	1996-97 (Allocation)
1	2	3
A. Foodgrain Crops		
1 Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice)	478.43	525.92
2 Accelerated Maize Development Programme	16.55	35.44
3 National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	131.66	160.00
B. Horticulture Crops		
1 Development of Commercial Floriculture	-	4.00
2 Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	0.75	0.75
3 Development of Mushroom	-	20.00
4 Development of Tropical Arid and Temperate Fruits	191.80	83.83
6 Development of Root and Tuber Crops	1.70	1.70
7 Development of Spices	124.40	48.41
8 Development of Vegetables	8.58	6.25
9 Use of Plastics in Agriculture	-	45.13
10 Development of Betelvine	1.24	1.43

Sugar Export Quota

2693 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar industry is sore over the delay in release of the additional export quota of 10 lakh tonnes of sugar;

(b) if so, whether there is a frequent delay in the release of export quota of sugar;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether after decanalisation of the sugar export, the prices in the global market has declined by $ 50 per tonne and the Indian Sugar Industry has incurred a huge loss on the export;

(e) if so, the details in this regard indicating estimated loss during 1995-96 and 1996-97 so far;

(f) the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (f). The export quota is being released keeping in view the request of export agencies. Against additional export authorisation, release on the request of Indian Sugar and General Industries Export Import Corporation (ISGIEIC) and State Trading Corporation (STC) have already been issued. Further release will also follow on request pending decanalising of export. Export prices depend upon a host of factors including international sugar prices which are quite sensitive to the market sentiments.

Spending from Consumer Welfare Fund

2694 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fund from the Consumer Welfare

Fund could be utilised only through dole to the Consumer Bodies as financial assistance;

(b) if so, whether there was flagrant violation of the rules and regulations for spending from the Consumer Welfare Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against the guilty persons and to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No Sir. Under the Consumer Welfare Fund rules, any agency/organization, village/Mandal/Samiti level cooperatives of consumers especially of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, engaged in the consumer welfare acativities for a period of three years and registered under the Companies Act 1956 or under any law for the time being in force are eligible to seek financial assistance from the Fund. Besides, any industry as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 recommended by Bureau of Indian Standards to be engaged for a period of five years in viable and useful research activities which has made or is likely to make significant contribution in formation of standard mark of the products of mass consumption; the State Governments, etc., are also eligible to seek financial assistance from the Fund.

(b) and (c) So far, no such violation has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

Wheat Grain Affected by Karnal Bunt Fungus

2695. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether wheat grain is affected by the Karnal bunt fungus;

(b) if so, the total loss suffered during the last three years as a result thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to come over the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Wheat grain is affected by Karnal bunt fungus mainly in some pockets of Punjab, Haryana and western U.P. Even during epidemic the extent of loss due to karnal bunt is estimated between 0.2 to 0.5%. During last three years there has been no report of any epidemic due to Karnal Bunt.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to overcome the situation :

(i) ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities and other extension functionaries are advocating growing of Karnal bunt disease resistant/tolerant varieties.

(ii) Seed treatment with thiram fungicide to control seed-borne infection of the disease.

(iii) Folior application with bitertanol/ propiconazole fungicides at the early heading stage

Corruption in D.M.S

1696. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the alleged corruption prevailing in the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS);

(b) if so, the details of such cases which have come to light during the last five years;

(c) whether any Departmental and C.B.I. inquiry had been conducted against the guilty officers of D.M.S. during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government on the basis of findings of inquiry, and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to check the corruption prevalent in the D.M.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (e) There was one case of corruption in the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) in the last five years. This involved a General Manager. The case was handled by the Central Bureau of Investigation and is currently under trial.

(f) The Vigilance Officer and the Chief Vigilance Officer exercise the necessary checks and control to prevent corruption in the D.M.S.

Illegal Felling of Trees

2697. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the large scale illegal felling of trees in the Rajaji Park in the Shivalik hills, Uttar Pradesh is causing serious decline in the forest cover as well as loss of crores of rupees to the Forest Department;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to take concrete action against the involved persons, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The State Chief Wildlife Warden